

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
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S E C R E T STATE 156064

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: AO, US, PO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: YOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT EANES

REF: (A) LISBON 4406, (B) LISBON 4356

1. YOUR MEETING WITH EANES COINCIDES WITH THE DEPARTURE FOR LUANDA JUNE 20 OF USUN AMBASSADOR DONALD MCHENRY ACCOMPANIED BY AF/C DIRECTOR DON JUNIOR, FOR TALKS WITH THE GOA ON BILATERAL ISSUES. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME SINCE ANGOLA'S INDEPENDENCE THAT U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE VISITED LUANDA OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF THE NAMIBIA CONTACT GROUP.

2. TEN DAYS AGO NETO SENT USA MESSAGE VIA HIS U.N. AMBAS-
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SADOR REQUESTING THAT THE U.S. SEND AN OFFICIAL TO LUANDA TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES. WE HAVE AGREED TO NETO'S REQUEST. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY WILL LISTEN TO WHAT THE ANGOLANS HAVE TO SAY. HE WILL TELL THE ANGOLANS THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE A SERIOUS CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH THEM, THAT WE WANT TO IMPROVE OUR RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA, AND THAT WE BELIEVE SUCH IMPROVEMENT CAN BEGIN

WITH PROGRESS IN RESOLVING QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.
MCHENRY WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS NAMIBIA, ANGOLA/ZAIRE
RELATIONS, THE CESSATION OF CROSS BORDER INCURSIONS,

AND ANGOLAN INTERNAL RECONCILIATION. HE WILL REITERATE
OUR CONCERN OVER CONTINUING CUBAN MILITARY PRESENCE.
BUT WILL NOT EMPHASIZE THIS PROBLEM.

3. YOU MAY SHARE THE ABOVE WITH EANES.

4. YOU SHOULD REITERATE TO EANES THAT WE WHOLEHEARTEDLY
SUPPORT HIS MEETING WITH NETO, THAT WE ARE ENCOURAGED
BY THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE IN ARRANGING THAT
MEETING, AND THAT WE HOPE IT WILL BEAR FRUIT. YOU SHOULD
ADD THAT THE PORTUGUESE CONCEPT OF THE EANES-NETO MEETING
AS DESCRIBED BY FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT
CARNEIRO (PARA 2, REF A) STRIKES US AS BOTH POSITIVE AND
REALISTIC.

5. WE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AFTER OUR
RESPECTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ANGOLAN LEADERSHIP.

6. RE CARNEIRO'S QUESTION (REF A) HOW USG WOULD REACT TO
PROPOSALS FOR ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE THROUGH
IFIS: FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, USG IS BOUND BY COM-
MITMENT MADE BY THE PRESIDENT TO CONGRESS THAT U.S. WILL
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QUOTE OPPOSE AND VOTE AGAINST UNQUOTE SUCH PROPOSALS.
LEGISLATION FOR FY 79 IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION,
AND WE ARE SEEKING WAYS TO AVOID HAVING TO MAKE SUCH A
COMMITMENT FOR FY 79.

7. WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU STATE 146480, WHICH CONTAINS
OUR LATEST ASSESSMENT OF ANGOLAN SITUATION, INCLUDING
NETO'S POSITION, FOR YOU TO DRAW ON AS APPROPRIATE IN
YOUR MEETING WITH EANES.

8. WE ARE ALSO REPEATING-FYI ONLY, USUN 2250, WHICH
REPORTS JUNE 1 MEETING BETWEEN AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND PRIME
MINISTER NASCIMENTO. VANCE

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